

A Jewish Community Under Siege: Antisemitism and Violence Across UCLA

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INTRODUCTION

When Eleanor, a young college student, arrived at UCLA to participate in a vigil for the victims of the October 7th massacre, she was filled with anticipation. Since the tragedy, she had been hoping for an event where she could honor the 1,200 victims. Little did Eleanor know that the day would end with her in the hospital after being brutally attacked by her fellow students simply for picking up the tiny Israeli flag that had been dropped by her little sister.

Eleanor's story is just one of many incidents described here. She is a symbol of what our community has endured in the past year. Whether we have been victims of antisemitic and anti-Zionist attacks ourselves or just witnessed them, we all share a sense of pro-found shock and betrayal at the hate and violence directed towards us in our school and workplace.

Antisemitic incidents began piling up just days after October 7, 2023, even before Israel launched its military campaign in Gaza¹. In fact, on October 7th, national student organizations affiliated with advocacy for Palestine celebrated the massacre on social media. At UCLA, this included Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP), as well as the Cultural Affairs Commission², an arm of the undergraduate student government.

While we were grieving our dead, we saw our classmates and colleagues celebrating the massacre, rape, and torture of more than a thousand people and

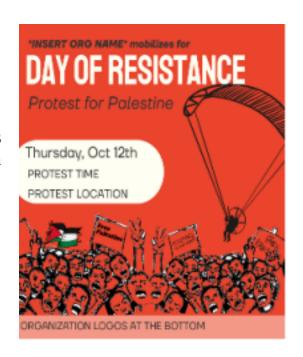


¹https://amchainitiative.org/search-by-incident#incident/display-by-date/details/654d2f02fcc25000296d7a48/

² https://www.instagram.com/sjpatucla/p/CygsgBTPKsQ/?img_index=1

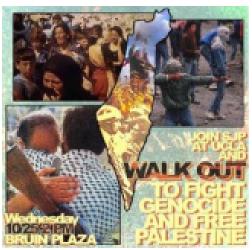
justifying the targeting of civilians, including children^{3,4}.

This wasn't accidental. This is not a case of students with good intentions misunderstanding the geo-political landscape. This is a case of student organizations functioning as operatives for terrorist organizations. For example, UCLA SJP distributed a manifesto and plan of action from American Muslims for Palestine (AMP), an organization that the Virginia attorney general has charged with financing terrorism. UCLA SJP (and National SJP) adopted a toolkit created prior to Hamas' Oct 7th attack, in response to Hamas's "call for mass mobilization". In this toolkit, AMP and National SJP identify themselves as "part of" a "Unity Intifada" operating under Hamas's "unified command" of terrorist operations in Gaza⁵.



DEMONSTRATIONS INTENSIFY

The rallies organized by these groups at UCLA gained momentum soon after the Oct. 7 attack. For example, on November 29th, 2023, more than 100 protesters held a "die in" to "to honor the martyrs of Gaza"⁶. As the months went on, demonstrators frequently chanted slogans and brandished signs with hate speech against Zionist Jews and the Oct 7th victims, such as "resistance is justified," "glory to the martyrs," and "down with Israel". They called for an "intifada", a bloody and violent uprising which used tactics such as suicide



³ https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2023-10-31/uc-faculty-letter-legitimized-hamas-attack-on-israel-regent-sa ys

⁴ https://www.adl.org/resources/article/some-us-professors-praise-hamass-october-7-terror-attacks

⁵ https://dw-wp-production.imgix.net/2023/10/DAY-OF-RESISTANCE-TOOLKIT.pdf

⁶ https://www.uscannenbergmedia.com/2023/11/30/pro-palestinian-protesters-organize-die-in-on-ucla-campus/

⁷ https://amchainitiative.org/search-by-incident#incident/display-by-university/view-incident details/6708a6a16701a802ab6b6784/

the river to the sea," which, according to the United States Congress⁸ is a direct call for genocide and the destruction of the Jewish state. And they even proclaimed "there is only one solution, intifada revolution," invoking Hitler's Final Solution as justification for Palestinian terrorism. But these pro-terror protesters don't always use coded language to



attack Jews and Israelis on campus. Some times they just say exactly what they mean, such as **"beat that f##king Jew!"** or "Itbah al yahud" (*slaughter the Jews* in Arabic)¹⁰.

These pro-terror protesters also vandalized buildings on campus and the surrounding neighborhood. Graffiti saying "Eat the Rich, **Hunt Down Jew Vampires**" was found on the Westwood Recreation Center near campus, and "**Israel has managed to turn Jews into Nazis**!" was on a sign held by a student^{11,12}. Israeli symbols and flags displayed on and around the campus, as well as pictures of Israeli and American hostages, including those of children, were repeatedly torn down and vandalized¹³.

⁸ https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-resolution/497

⁹ https://nypost.com/2023/11/10/news/ucla-students-batter-bibi-pinata-to-chants-of-beat-that-f-g-jew/

¹⁰https://www.foxnews.com/media/ucla-professor-schools-gutless-response-antisemitism-campus-complicit-hamas

¹¹https://amchainitiative.org/search-by-incident#incident/display-by-university/view-incident-details/655521102f359 30026f61fc3/

¹²https://amchainitiative.org/search-by-incident#incident/display-by-university/view-incident-details/655521102f359 30026f61fc3/

¹³https://amchainitiative.org/search-by-incident#incident/display-by-university/view-incident-details/6626a86e3827 b1003a7283fd/

EXCLUSION AND TARGETING OF ISRAELIS AND JEWS

In the following months, SJP, the Cultural Affairs Commission, Faculty for Justice in Palestine (FJP), and other related organizations have collaborated with groups like UC Divest at UCLA, in organizing walkouts calling for divestment from Israeli companies^{14,15}. Even more alarming, they advocated for severing ties with Israeli universities and targeted these efforts at UCLA students and faculty. "War criminals are NOT welcome on our campus!"¹⁶ FJP declared in an official statement, demonizing and ostracizing Israeli students, faculty, and staff colleagues. Similarly, nineteen faculty members from the Asian American Studies department **called for the expulsion of Israeli students and** the severing of "UC-wide connections to Israeli universities, including study abroad programs, fellowships, seminars, research collaborations, and UCLA's Nazarian Center"¹⁷.

Since October 7th, many Humanities departments have become especially ripe hotbeds of antisemitism and anti-Israel bias. Jewish faculty have been marginalized, isolated, and called "Zios" by their peers, with the intent to demean their religion, culture, and nation of origin, while other faculty and administrators in positions of power stood by and did nothing. In one incident, a swastika and "Free Palestine" were written on Professor Greg Cohen's classroom chalkboard¹⁸ but all attempts to seek support from the administration either went unanswered or were dismissed as politically motivated, trivial, or unimportant.



¹⁴ https://amchainitiative.org/search-by-incident#incident/display-by-university/view-incident-details/65e9100f302fe8 00272ed629/

¹⁵ https://amchainitiative.org/search-by-incident#incident/display-by-date/details/66f59a21be479a02b44733dd/ ¹⁶ https://amchainitiative.org/search-by-incident#incident/display-by-university/view-incident-details/65e007d127615 200289099ef/

¹⁷https://amchainitiative.org/search-by-incident#incident/display-by-university/view-incident-details/6661f81503bbad 0028e3015c/

¹⁸ https://drive.google.com/file/d/1gzLuDPrsxrRuV5sJSBOxdEd3zrUvK3QU/view

In March 2024, a non-tenured track instructor was told by the chair of their department to issue an announcement to all students, disclosing that they are a Jew but that they would still grade fairly and without discrimination. No other faculty members were asked to issue such a letter.

On April 2, 2024 the UCLA Department of Psychiatry's Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion office sponsored a public lecture titled "Depathologizing Resistance" which **promoted self-immolation** (the act of burning oneself alive) as justifiable resistance for a cause and indoctrinated the audience with antisemitic and anti-Israel propaganda calling Israel an "oppressive," "colonial," and "terrorist regime." Not only did medical school leadership do nothing to correct this medically irresponsible and antisemitic rhetoric but when two Jewish professors spoke out about the blatant antisemitism, one professor was **immediately suspended indefinitely, without due process,** and the other became the victim of an academic boycott which forced her out of the clinic she founded and ran for thirty years. Three other medical providers in her clinic have also been **compelled to take leaves of absence** in response to the aggressive anti-Zionism pressure campaign from the medical residents.

THE ENCAMPMENT AND ITS VIOLENCE

April also marked the most significant escalation against our community at UCLA, with the establishment of the "Palestine Solidarity Encampment"^{19,20}. As part of a national campaign led by National SJP, UCLA SJP illegally barricaded a public section of campus for their exclusive use, set up tents, and along with their usual calls for intifada and praise for the deaths of their "martyrs"^{21,22}, also displayed pro-terror signage such as the Hamas



¹⁹ https://newsroom.ucla.edu/ucla-statement-about-encampment-on-campus-april-26

²⁰https://abc7.com/pro-palestinian-protesters-set-up-encampment-of-tents-outside-royce-hall-on-ucla-campus/147 33898/

²¹https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2024-05-09/are-you-a-zionist-checkpoints-at-ucla-encampment-provoke d-debate-among-jewish-students

²² https://drive.google.com/file/d/18bhkv4clo2QH2P4qHUh9PjbbwKduopas/view

red triangle symbolizing the **Hamas combat operation**, which appears in videos glorifying attacks on IDF soldiers. Students, staff, and faculty were blocked from entering the area, which was appropriated by hundreds of anti-Israel protesters. A self-organized security team surrounded the space, **preventing access to "Zionists"**, including staff and faculty, in what had become a restricted public zone²³.

Around the encampment, there were multiple incidents in which Jewish students, faculty,



and staff were physically or verbally attacked by these pro-terror demonstrators. In one incident, students blocked and conducted a body search on Professor Nir Hoftman, a clinical professor at the David Geffen School of Medicine (DGSOM) at UCLA, and later assaulted him²⁴.

Eleanor, the student we mentioned at the start of this report---who came to pay tribute to the victims of the October 7th massacre--was **struck on the head with a stick, thrown to the ground by members of the encampment, and repeatedly kicked in the head.**

²³ https://drive.google.com/file/d/1A8WgJ-wM5NSXlwrSkS4zwhhVXLeBOGns/view

²⁴ https://drive.google.com/file/d/1W2njPFZskjg2dbIEWkzKyd4-Kq7gopKr/view

Eleanor was knocked unconscious and was taken to the hospital with an open head wound²⁵. Lani Dawn, was shoved off a ledge by a UCLA student²⁶ while walking near the encampment. There were also incidents of individuals being **punched in the face²⁷**, threatened with a taser, and in at least in one case, **pepper sprayed²⁸**. Antisemitic rhetoric was also widespread, with one bystander reportedly stating, "we're here to finish what Hitler started"²⁹.



There was an attack on Chabad Rabbi Dovid Gurevich, who was surrounded by a group of masked men who called him a "**pedophile rabbi**," told him to "**go back to Poland,**" and **threatened to kill him**. One of the men **punched the rabbi**, knocking his phone out of his hand. A video from the scene shows the **rabbi pleading for help** from local security and

²⁵ https://drive.google.com/file/d/1cTerbNk_VSpE6NrjuL22IBF4GvYYmDEU/view

²⁶ https://drive.google.com/file/d/1EWR_I374KIV8m-NeAcGrImITcj4-q0WM/view

²⁷ https://drive.google.com/file/d/1A I-7xBlmAOe8G-dAbcoykyKjnE1jRth/view

²⁸ https://drive.google.com/file/d/1xvVigltLV6YKilA6uiz5sd HWXkRagen/view

https://www.thenation.com/article/archive/palestinian-liberation-police-abolition/

police while being assaulted by the men, while the officers watched and chose not to intervene³⁰.

It should be noted that some of the agitators involved in the encampment, including some of those who attacked Rabbi Gurevich, were outside provocateurs. Alarmingly, it seems that some of these individuals were identified as former gang members and people with criminal records, taking advantage of the open-campus policy to engage in antisemitic acts³¹. This also led to incidents like a **van displaying a Swastika** intertwined with the Star of David freely driving around campus³² **blasting antisemitic propaganda**.

But the danger to Jewish students and faculty has also extended off campus. For example, soon after October 7, 2023, Professor Inna Faliks, was threatened by SJP demonstrators who photographed her and warned, "**We will find you; we will take care of you.**" They then stalked and photographed her husband at his place of work. Two weeks later, a pile of garbage topped with a swastika was left at their home, accompanied by a note that read, "**Loud-Mouthed Jew.**"³³

CIVIL RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

Each evening, after dark, the students and agitators occupying that encampment moved their barricades to expand the scope and footprint of the encampment. After only a couple of days, the encampment grew so large that it encompassed not just public grounds but also walkways and entrances to the undergraduate library and other university buildings. They set up barriers and manned checkpoints, demanding that people identify themselves with wristbands before allowing entry, **specifically denying access to those they labeled as Zionists and shouting "Allahu Akbar"** when denying entry to Jews.

³⁰https://forward.com/fast-forward/621748/ucla-chabad-rabbi-dovid-qurevich-palestinian-protest/

³¹ https://drive.google.com/file/d/1n73An0MK_yXL0a6MK4MUAfdYm45NIhKD/view?usp=drive_link

³² https://www.instagram.com/reel/C6dBXxwLnhZ/?igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA%3D%3D

³³ https://amchainitiative.org/search-by-incident#incident/display-by-date/details/6626a86f3827b1003a728431/

³⁴ https://x.com/stephsvox/status/1785082357667799209

³⁵ https://drive.google.com/file/d/1avUMq9LDV3vLRn8ULxizBnWEjb-_sUrr/view?usp=drive_link

One of the students denied entry to the center of campus was Eli Tsives, an undergraduate wearing a Star of David necklace³⁶. Another student wearing an Israeli t-shirt was stopped by protesters issuing wristbands and prevented access to the UCLA library. When he questioned a <u>UCLA</u> security guard about the selective entry, the guard replied, "they pick and choose who go in and who don't", referring to the anti-Israel demonstrators³⁷. These are violations of civil rights.

PROTESTERS REFUSED TO COMPLY WITH THE LAW, AND THEN DEMANDED AMNESTY

By the end of April, UCLA administrators finally declared the encampment unlawful and in violation of university policy³⁸. They warned students via email and notices that those who remained could face sanctions for obstructing peace officers³⁹. Many encampment residents, however, refused to leave and engaged in physical altercations with counter-protesters and local rioters, who also acted violently against them⁴⁰. The next day, Provost Darnell Hunt attempted to dialogue with the protesters, and even entered their encampment to discuss their demands. **He told them that he "firmly believes in their cause"** Despite his allegiance, the protestors still shouted down and aggressively chased him away, making him fear for his safety. Protesters hurled insults at him^{42,43}, calling him KKK and a "disgrace to Black people." Notably, months later, the same crowd would target Vice Chancellor Michael Beck, shouting, "You're not safe!" as they chased him off campus⁴⁴. Surprisingly, this experience did not change Provost Hunt, who still has not agreed to meet with Jewish faculty and leaders from the <u>Jewish Faculty Resilience Group</u> to discuss the relentless antisemitism on UCLA's campus.

³⁶ https://www.tiktok.com/@chaddderall/video/7364451186218405162

³⁷https://photos.google.com/u/0/album/AF1QipPeqimhuzi8Mij-mXZTMZCNKtfLQD2gFo8l_cv2/photo/AF1QipP3Znr1fRKL5o7-LCkrPF3PFeVLvNuF-WTkC8UU

³⁸https://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/press-room/statement-uc-president-michael-v-drake-md-free-speech-and-campus-protests

³⁹ https://dailybruin.com/2024/04/30/ucla-declares-encampment-unlawful-states-potential-consequences-for-participants

⁴⁰ https://www.nytimes.com/2024/05/01/nyregion/ucla-protests.html

⁴¹https://www.google.com/url?q=https://drive.google.com/file/d/1FvmrpIp1N-h5Kt4wEyEF_xhaMTMzeHbx/view?usp%3Dsharing&sa=D&source=docs&ust=1733308043805793&usg=AOvVaw3tlHOGTeK5fqQbA-R0uo2u(quoted language comes at the 6:11 mark of the video)

⁴² https://drive.google.com/file/d/1CVW34mA2yEb_vR6S4nW09v7LJFqEZMGE/view?usp=drive_link

⁴³ https://drive.google.com/file/d/1LISjdaT_VJXVYEAIMfAxSqjimVgr2Npz/view?usp=drive_link and https://drive.google.com/file/d/1RMbhjkaKZ0XDjL_DH6AX6GqUKCROa8JH/view?usp=sharing

⁴⁴ https://drive.google.com/file/d/1EEKVLW6b37 NACJNxCSh3MeXWGxLe6of/view

On the morning of May 2, after more than eight exhausting hours spent attempting to persuade demonstrators to leave voluntarily, LAPD riot police finally breached the heavily barricaded encampment⁴⁵. According to a report from the chancellor's office, "Ultimately, about 300 protesters voluntarily left, while more than 200 resisted orders to disperse and were arrested." Many of those arrested clashed violently with police⁴⁶ throwing fire extinguishers, chairs, as well as urine and ice filled bottles at the officers.

In the days following the dismantling of the encampment, the UCLA Jewish community was finally able to move freely around campus and enjoy a brief break from the incessant chanting for Intifada. But it was heartbreaking to see that despite the antisemitism and violence surrounding the encampment, despite the egregious vandalism and destruction of historic UCLA buildings by the protesters, various campus groups and departments issued statements in support of the violent protesters and the encampment, framing it as an expression of free speech and peaceful protest⁴⁷.

- For instance, a statement from the Classics Department read: "We believe that the real chaos of the past few days at UCLA has not come from the Palestinian Solidarity Encampment but rather from the university administration's mishandling of a peaceful protest that they initially seemed to have supported."
- Faculty and Students in the Anthropology Department demanded coverage of the protesters' medical and legal expenses⁴⁸.
- UCLA Faculty for Justice in Palestine held a press conference condemning the arrests⁴⁹ and another faculty group filed unfair labor practice charges against the UC, alleging it was unjust to permit the arrest of individuals who had barricaded themselves in the encampment, despite prior warnings from the university and police⁵⁰.
- Furthermore, two UCLA faculty members have sued the UC, claiming repression of pro-Palestinian speech, despite the significant leniency the UCLA administration displayed in allowing the protest to effectively take over campus for months, including restricting physical movement across campus⁵¹.

⁴⁵ https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pPWgIU2yFywyxfjGrG2C64ieQfb2cxF-/view

⁴⁶ https://newsroom.ucla.edu/our-community-is-in-deep-pain

⁴⁷ https://dailybruin.com/2024/05/04/ucla-academic-departments-release-statements-condemning-handling-of-encampment

⁴⁸ https://anthro.ucla.edu/

⁴⁹ https://dailybruin.com/2024/05/04/ucla-academic-departments-release-statements-condemning-handling-of-encampment

https://dailybruin.com/2024/09/19/faculty-associations-announce-unfair-labor-practice-charge-against-uc https://www.aclusocal.org/en/press-releases/students-faculty-sue-ucla-violating-free-speech-rights#:~:text= LOS%20ANGELES%20%E2%80%93%20Today%2C%20two%20students,at%20a%20campus%20encampment %20last

More significantly, UAW 4811 organization, a labor union representing over 36,000 workers—including many Jewish postdocs, visiting researchers, and teaching assistants—held a solidarity strike in support of the encampment^{52,53} and illegally used their labor action as leverage to force UC divestment from Israeli institutions.

TESTIMONIALS

So much has happened at UCLA since the October 7th massacre that it may be difficult to gauge the human impact. During the last year, the Jewish Faculty Resilience Group (JFRG), has collected hundreds of testimonials and incident reports from our community. Here are some of their stories in their own words:

- "Seeing my peers openly calling for the ethnic cleansing of my homeland from Jews and cheering for the murder of Jewish Israelis in Israel, including my immediate family, was a sight that left me feeling deeply unsafe... It **resurfaces the trauma** of the second **intifada and is a call for violence against civilians**."
- "UCLA had always felt like my second home, so it felt so violating to have the hate expressed on campus. I was **crying every day and often unable to focus on work**."
- "I feel that, because of my ethnicity, national origin, and religion, I have been **dehumanized at UCLA** and that I am not safe."
- "People from the encampment spray painting signs saying fuck Israel and laughing. I'm scared to go to school."
- "We were assaulted and followed home... We were **followed by people in masks yelling intifada**."
- "...she instead pulled my hair and the adult men came on top of me as I fell onto my back and started kicking them off and at the same time one of the men assaulted my friend with a giant walking stick aka weapon that he was holding."
- "On Monday morning, my friends and I were **prevented from entering a public**

⁵² https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2024-05-28/ucla-uc-davis-brace-for-strike-as-union-alleges-free-speech-vi olations-in-pro-palestinian-protests

⁵³ https://www.liberationnews.org/uaw-4811-authorizes-strike-across-uc-campuses-defending-right-to-protest-for-pal estine/

part of campus between Powell Library and Haines Hall clearly **because we were Jewish**. Other people were visibly behind them and walking around campus, while **security stood by and did nothing**. Later in the day, I was outside the Powell
library entrance when pro-Palestinian protesters formed a **3-person linked-arm blockade** in front of the entrance, saying that I could not enter because I had no
wristband, and then one of them admitted: "**We don't let Zionists in**."

- "On Friday, I witnessed people in the encampment yelling Zionist pigs should die."
- "My wife grew scared (she is a daughter of survivors from Auschwitz) and said maybe we should go as the group turned towards us and started surrounding our designated area and pushing and shoving people by locking their arms and pushing forward ... I saw some Jewish people stumble as they tried to protect themselves, but the anti-Israel group kept charging forward pushing us back as they further surrounded us. I got separated from my wife as I got pushed and prodded protecting myself with my flag. When I found my wife several minutes later, she was hysterically crying as the antisemites were in her face."

NEW THREATS

In August, it was encouraging when a federal judge acknowledged that UCLA had not protected its Jewish students⁵⁴. "In the year 2024, in the United States of America, in the State of California, in the City of Los Angeles, Jewish students were excluded from portions of the UCLA campus because they refused to denounce their faith,"⁵⁵the judge wrote. In response, the administration began implementing new protocols at the start of the academic year.



54https://www.cbsnews.com/losangeles/news/u-s-judge-says-ucla-failed-to-protect-jewish-students-orders-fair-acce ss-to-call-of-campus/

⁵⁵ https://www.jewishfederations.org/fedworld/federations-praise-ruling-protecting-jewish-ucla-students#:~:text=In%2 0a%20historic%20ruling%20yesterday,refused%20to%20denounce%20their%20faith.

However, as we write this, the same pro-terror advocacy groups we mentioned earlier, such as UCLA SJP, FJP, and members of the undergraduate student council like the Cultural Affairs Commission, have already committed multiple violations of the new code of conduct, as acknowledged by campus police⁵⁶. These infractions include the **violation of Time, Place, and Manner regulations**, amplified sound, failure to comply, erecting of permanent structures without a permit, fire code violations, and restricting access to public areas. **In fact, on their public social media accounts, these organizations are openly encouraging students to violate these protocols, offering tips on how to evade the police^{57,58}, as well as offering free legal consultations in case of arrest⁵⁹.**

Horrifically, on the day commemorating the October 7th attack, these groups organized a "week of rage" and posted media justifying the horrific attacks^{60,61}. Additionally, recent video and audio recordings have surfaced showing UCLA SJP members justifying and glorifying terrorism, calling it "armed resistance" in online "UCLA summer school" classes and even on the student-run UCLA Radio⁶². Furthermore, we are seeing renewed calls for the divestment and boycott of Israeli academics, including students⁶³, and mor recently non-Israeli Jewish faculty who are thought to be Zionists. Most notably, at their most recent protest on November 19, SJP protesters once again linked arms and blocked the path of visibly Jewish students, violating the injunction as well as Title VI of the civil rights act.

REGENTS' RESPONSES

Ultimately, responsibility for the UC system and UCLA in particular falls on the Regents. The Regents, however, do not administer the university; that role falls to the UC president and the various chancellors. The Regents have held numerous meetings on the issue of antisemitism and the encampments and protests that developed after October 7, 2023. Several of these meetings dealt with **departmental political statements** posted on UC

⁵⁶ https://dailybruin.com/2024/10/07/live-anniversary-of-oct-7-attacks

⁵⁷ https://drive.google.com/file/d/101TyyMTA4MBRxsv2cxbtkHuGqIIuOI5y/view

⁵⁸ https://drive.google.com/file/d/1UV79ZvCHdyUvo4szeZV384MgvMal2Se_/view

⁵⁹ https://drive.google.com/file/d/1jxoGqq6qeZ5DctRMN7iVLFY2QymyIXLw/view

⁶⁰ https://drive.google.com/file/d/16vQzFRPuk5jj7t8t6uDZWnPNUAGwd29V/view

⁶¹ https://drive.google.com/file/d/1b80ReZ-mBU3qrh0XaetZoPaq8n2-Rt52/view

⁶² https://drive.google.com/file/d/1g1KutiWVOhlN0wdW0jOpsB9 59 I5biF/view

⁶³https://amchainitiative.org/search-by-incident#incident/display-by-university/view-incident-details/670c718fab015 302e37c8249/

and UCLA websites. Ultimately, the Regents decided on a very loose policy with regard to such statements and left it to the chancellors to implement. It remains unclear why department websites should have any such statements, which—despite required disclaimer—enmesh the university in the opinions expressed. **Such statements are inevitably coercive** to junior faculty, potential new hires, non-ladder instructors, staff, and students. Individual faculty have the personal opportunity to use external social media, op eds, and other means to express whatever opinions they have.

Regents' sessions, however, have produced some useful information. On November 14, 2024, Regent Sures was able to obtain an admission by UCLA Interim Chancellor Darnell Hunt that no faculty, staff, or student had received any penalty for alleged misbehavior stemming from the encampment and protests as of that date despite the fact that there had been "hundreds" of complaints filed. At the same session, Regent Pérez noted that campus administrators seemed unable to separate antisemitism from Islamophobia. Whenever antisemitism concerns were raised, they instinctively paired it with Islamophobia. Findeed, Regent Pérez made the same point back in 2015, apparently to no effect on administrative behavior. Administrators seem unable to talk about antisemitism without "balancing" the discussion with talk about Islamophobia.

In summary, the Regents have devoted considerable time to discussions of problems related to antisemitism and have exposed interesting facts. But **actual policy shifts that resulted have been limited.**

JEWISH FACULTY RESILIENCE GROUP AT UCLA'S (JFRG) MISSION

The actions we have witnessed are not isolated incidents; rather, they reflect a troubling pattern that undermines the safety and well-being of Jewish students, faculty, and staff. The recent events have raised serious concerns about the future of our community at UCLA. It is becoming increasingly difficult to thrive in an environment marked by

⁶⁴ UCLA Chancellor: No penalties from protests as of 11-14-2024

⁶⁵ UC Regent Pérez Decries "Both Sides-ism" in discussion of antisemitism

⁶⁶ Excerpts: U of Calif Regents on Antisemitism & Intolerance

hostility and ongoing violations of conduct, with limited responses from the administration. This inaction and apathy are emblematic of the administration's approach to antisemitism on campus even before October 7th.

The <u>Jewish Faculty Resilience Group (JFrg)</u> is committed to preserving the dignity and security of our community while countering antisemitism. Through the collection of testimonies, raising awareness about antisemitism, and collaborating with UCLA administration, local government, and the media, JFrg strives to hold our institution accountable and advocate for meaningful change. Our goal is to create a campus that respects the dignity and rights of the Jewish community and all those who support peaceful <u>coexistence and civil discourse</u>, ensuring that every individual feels safe and respected in this academic environment.

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